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### **March 1 Planting Intentions**

Farmers in Kentucky intend to plant 1.50 million acres of corn, 100,000 higher than 2015. U.S. corn growers intend to plant 93.6 million acres for all purposes in 2016, up 6 percent from last year and 3 percent higher than 2014.

Soybean acreage in Kentucky was expected to total 1.65 million acres, down 190,000 acres from the previous year. U.S. soybean planted area for 2016 is estimated at 82.2 million acres, down 1 percent from last year.

Burley tobacco growers in Kentucky intend to set 61,000 acres for harvest, up 3,000 acres from 2015. For the burley producing states, growers intend to set 79,150 acres, slightly above last year.

Producers intend to set 10,000 acres of dark-fired tobacco in Kentucky, up 100 acres from the previous year. Acreage set to dark-air tobacco was estimated at 4,700 acres, down 300 acres from 2015.

Winter wheat seeded by Kentucky farmers in the fall of 2015 totaled 550,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from previous year. All wheat seeded acreage for the nation was 49.6 million acres, down 8 percent from the previous year.

Farmers in the state intend to harvest 2.40 million acres of all hay, up 30,000 from 2015. U.S. farmers intend on harvesting 54.3 million acres of hay in 2016, down slightly from last year. The acreage of all hay harvested during a summer depends to a great measure on the moisture received during the growing season and temperatures experienced. With a drier summer farmers will cut more hay to feed their cattle.